



# MEDIA RELEASE

## UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

#### **AMC ASSESSMENT TEAM VISITS SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE**

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, Ill. – Gen. John W. Handy, commander, Air Mobility Command, has directed three assessment teams visit all 12 AMC installations March 10-19 to review each base's sexual assault response programs. The team will be visiting here March 19.

These teams will consist of members from six functional areas such as personnel, legal, surgeon general, and the office of special investigations. The three teams organized by the AMC Inspector General's office are meeting with wing representatives and agencies that interface with sexual assault victims.

This fact finding effort will provide Air Force leadership with an open assessment of sexual assault issues, best practices, problems and challenges. AMC assessment teams are not reviewing individual cases or allegations.

The goal of this effort remains to eliminate sexual assaults and the climates that foster them. Also, ensure an environment where victims have confidence to report assaults and conduct appropriate investigation and prosecution. Additionally, to effectively address victims' health and well-being and ensure that commanders and headquarters have visibility on the effectiveness of the program.

“Within Air Mobility Command, we must insist that our organization is one where all people’s rights are respected, embracing the fact that diversity is truly our greatest strength,” General Handy said. “Commanders must be deeply and personally involved in solving diversity issues, specifically, we must commit ourselves to eliminating sexual assault and the climate that fosters it. Additionally, we must promote an environment where our people not only feel free to report assaults, but also know with confidence that perpetrators will be appropriately disciplined.”

General Handy’s decision to send these teams supports the Air Force Secretary Dr. James G. Roche and Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper’s direction that each major command assess the current status of sexual assault response programs at each installation.

“Similarly, at home and abroad, we continue to stress measures that create an environment safe from sexual assault – an environment that, just like on the battlefield, enables commanders and individuals throughout the chain of command to rapidly identify and decisively act on threats to any of our airmen. For us, sexual assault is a threat to airmen – it is incompatible with the core values of the Air Force – it is a crime – and it will not be tolerated!” Vice Chief of Staff Gen. T. Michael Moseley said.

Each team will visit four bases and spend about one and a half days at each location reviewing all policies and programs.

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*Interview availability with 375th Airlift Wing leadership is scheduled on base for Wednesday at 2:30. A second interview availability with Assessment Team members is schedule for Friday at 12:30. Media should plan to meet at the parking lot before the Shiloh Gate after calling the 375th Public Affairs Office at (618) 256-4241; or after duty hours, (618) 256-5891.*

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